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A 2

In another embodiment, the invention comprises an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:9, a polynucleotide which is hybridizable to a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:9, a polynucleotide encoding a truncated tryptophanyl-tRNA synthetase polypeptide which includes a Rossmann fold nucleotide binding domain, a polynucleotide that is hybridizable to a polynucleotide encoding a truncated tryptophanyl-tRNA synthetase polypeptide which includes a Rossmann fold nucleotide binding domain, a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide mentioned in the preceding paragraph, a polynucleotide that is hybridizable to a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide mentioned in the preceding paragraph, a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide epitope of SEQ ID NO:10, and a polynucleotide that is hybridizable to a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide epitope of SEQ ID NO:10. In a preferred embodiment the invention comprises a recombinant expression vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of encoding a tRNA synthetase polypeptide. Another embodiment is a host cell comprising a recombinant expression vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO:9 encoding a tRNA synthetase polypeptide.

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 6 to read:

Sub B6
A3

6. (amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the truncated tRNA synthetase polypeptide is a member of the group consisting of

- a polypeptide consisting essentially of amino acid residues 48-471 of SEQ ID NO:10;
- a polypeptide consisting essentially of amino acid residues 71-471 of SEQ ID NO:10;
- a polypeptide of approximately 47 kD molecular weight produced by cleavage of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:10 with polymorphonuclear leucocyte elastase; and
- fragments thereof comprising the amino acid sequence -Asp-Leu-Thr-.